

BLM *in the Southeast*



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The US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States (BLM-ES), Jackson Field Office (JFO) is responsible for the stewardship of the public lands and resources under the jurisdiction of the BLM in the 11 Southeastern States adjoining and east of the Mississippi River. Major programs include:

Energy & Minerals: BLM-ES, JFO administers a variety of energy and mineral activities for the exploration and development of oil, natural gas, coal, phosphate, quartz, limestone, and gold. JFO also has jurisdiction over the majority of the Bureau's coastal Oil and Gas operations. Over 19 million dollars a year is generated in Federal Leasable Mineral income from JFO. JFO's oil and gas program oversees 940 active oil and gas wells, 4 leases in operating phosphate mines and 6 operating coal mines. JFO partners with a variety of Federal, State, and private surface owners to further the goal of environmentally responsible mineral development.

Wild Horse and Burro Adoptions: BLM-ES, JFO places approximately 1,500 wild horses and burros annually into private care with qualified adopters. JFO adopts more wild horses and burros than any other BLM office in the nation. Approximately 16 adoptions are held each year at temporary sites (such as fairgrounds, universities and private facilities), and at the Piney Woods (MS) holding facility.

Natural Resources: Through numerous partnerships, BLM-ES, JFO manages a variety of natural and cultural values on public lands to showcase unique recreation, wildlife and cultural resources. For example, JFO has formed the Jupiter Working Group to help manage the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area. This tract is a 54-acre urban island called home by sensitive vegetation communities and 19 special status species. Partnerships have also been formed to manage the Lathrop Bayou public domain tract in Bay County, FL.

Lands and Realty: BLM-ES, JFO manages approximately 3,000 acres of public domain tracts including, several prime beachfront properties. JFO recently completed the Planning Analysis/Environmental Assessment for Arkansas/Louisiana and has recently begun the Resource Management Plan process for Mississippi and Alabama.

Wildland Fire: BLM-ES, JFO boasts the only BLM Hotshot Crew in the East. Since being formed, they have fought disastrous wildland fires in 13 States totaling over 1 million acres. In addition, they have been called upon to assist with two National emergencies, working at Ground Zero after 9/11/01 and conducting search and rescue from the Space Shuttle Columbia. In their off season, the Hotshots have reduced hazardous fuels on over 50,000 acres on Wildlife Refuges in the Southeast.

Outreach/Partnerships: BLM-Eastern States, JFO actively recruits partners to effectively and efficiently conduct daily business. JFO also sponsors such events as an Environmental Education Camp, Equine Camp, Pathways to Fishing and National Public Lands Day.

For more information please contact the BLM-Eastern States, Jackson Field Office at 601-977-5400.



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